REMARKS

Claims 3, 4, 6, and 7 are pending in this application. The specification is amended by this amendment. No new matter has been added. In view of the amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested.

Applicants submitted a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 from Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-034496 (filed February 9, 2001), and a certified copy of the foreign priority application, which were submitted on August 6, 2001. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner properly acknowledge receipt of ***all certified copies*** of priority documents for this application, as shown on line 12a of the Office Action summary form.

The Examiner objects to the specification for a number of minor informalities. Though Applicants respectfully submit that "an" preceding "LCD" is correct in that the "L" in this acronym makes a vowel sound (ie. "ell-see-dee"), Applicants herein amend the specification as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the objections to the specification be withdrawn.

Claims 3, 4, 6, and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated U.S. Patent No. 6,603,469 to Gettemy et al. (hereinafter referred to as Gettemy). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 3 relates to a method of reducing power consumption of a portable terminal equipped with a display unit to which power is supplied from a DC/DC converter. The method of claim 3 includes, *inter alia*, monitoring the display unit to see whether the display unit is in a display color number limiting mode or not, and ***determining a switching clock frequency of the DC/DC converter to maintain an efficiency of the DC/DC converter at an optimum level in the display color number limiting mode***. The method of claim 3 further includes ***switching the***

frequency to the determined switching clock frequency, and operating the DC/DC converter at this frequency.

The Examiner cites Gettemy as a new reference that allegedly discloses the features of the claimed invention. Gettemy apparently discusses a method and system for enhancing the life of a battery within a portable or otherwise battery operated electronic device by automatically switching between a color display mode and a monochrome display mode (see Gettemy, Fig. 9.) In Gettemy, the number of display colors are controlled to save the battery consumption power. Gettemy merely describes a personal digital assistant ("PDA") device with a battery power level monitor that either alerts the user to switch, or automatically switches the device to a monochromatic display mode when the battery power level is low. The cited portions of Gettemy also include descriptions of a method for switching back to a full color mode when the battery power level exceeds the low level threshold (see, e.g., Gettemy; Figs. 7-9).

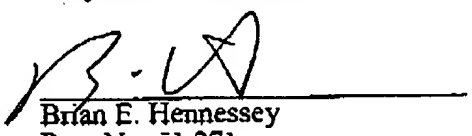
On the other hand, the present invention further maintains a ***maximum efficiency of a DC/DC converter*** even when a display status of a display unit has changed from a normal operating mode (for instance, apparently corresponding to a color display mode in Gettemy) to a waiting mode (for instance, apparently corresponding to a monochrome display mode in Gettemy). As a result, a ***further*** reduction in power consumption ***during a waiting mode*** of a display unit can be achieved ***by controlling a clock frequency of the DC/DC converter*** (see for example, Figs. 6, 7A-7B, and 8-10). However, Gettemy, as cited and relied upon by the Examiner, does not disclose, or even suggest, the claimed features in connection with the ***switching clock frequencies of a DC/DC converter***. Therefore, Gettemy does not disclose or suggest the above characteristics of the present invention, as recited in claims 3 and 4, and claims 3 and 4 are allowable for at least this reason.

Claims 6 and 7 depend from claims 3 and 4, respectively, and therefore each of these claims is allowable for at least this same reasons as their respective base claims are allowable.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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